

CAZON
MA
-69HIII

Cox
Publishing



HAMILTON - BURLINGTON - WENTWORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

CA20N
MA
69 H111

Government
Publications

SUMMARY OF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

STANTON: GILBERTSON, WENTWORTH
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

SUMMARY OF
REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS

CA 20 W
MA
69 H 111

F O R E W O R D

This summary of a Report by Mr. D.R. Steele, Mr. E.A. Jarrett and Mr. B.W.B. Morison has been prepared by The Municipal Research Branch, Department of Municipal Affairs and is intended to serve as a guide to the actual Report.

It has Chapter and Page references included to show where in the Report, discussion on particular points can be found. Copies of the actual Report and Recommendations of The Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth Local Government Review may be borrowed from public libraries in the area or obtained from The Department of Municipal Affairs, 801 Bay Street, Toronto 5, Ontario

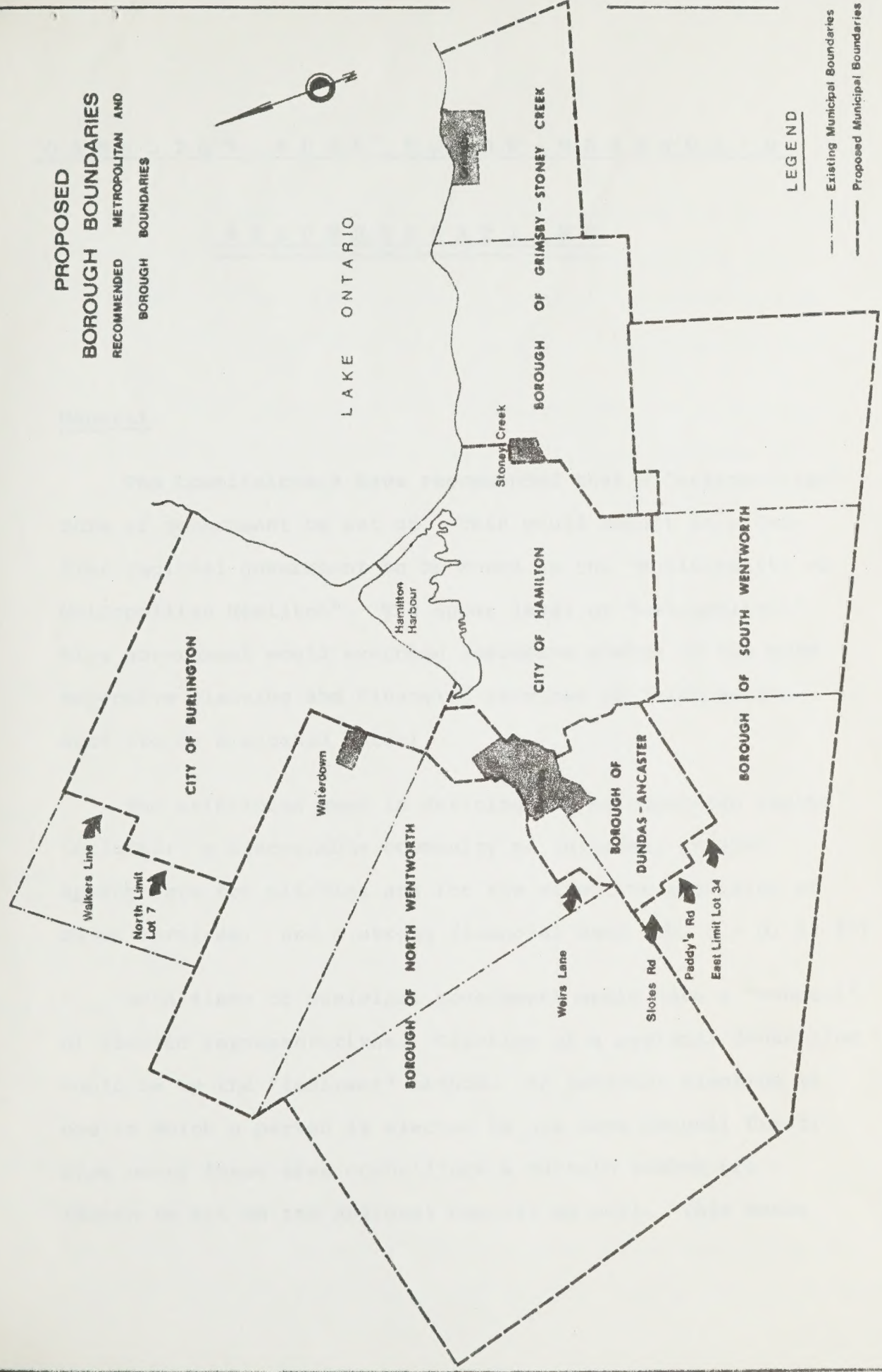
**PROPOSED
BOROUGH BOUNDARIES
RECOMMENDED METROPOLITAN AND
BOROUGH BOUNDARIES**



LAKE ONTARIO

LEGEND

- Existing Municipal Boundaries
- Proposed Municipal Boundaries



HAMILTON - BURLINGTON - WENTWORTH

RECOMMENDATIONS

General

The Commissioners have recommended that a "metropolitan" form of government be set up. This would result in a two-tier regional government to be known as the "Municipality of Metropolitan Hamilton". The upper level or "metropolitan" tier government would exercise extensive powers in the more expensive planning and financial services of local government (to be discussed later).

The principles used in defining the metropolitan region included: a discernable community of interest, an area appropriate for planning and for the effective provision of major services; and a strong financial base (Ch. 2 - p. 22-27).

Both tiers of municipal government would have a "council" of elected representatives. Election of a regional councillor would be by the "indirect" method. An indirect election is one in which a person is elected to his Area Council first; from among these area councillors a certain number are chosen to sit on the Regional Council as well. This means

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2022 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761115475063>

that some councillors sit on two councils at the same time. This is felt to be a good system since it ensures that there will be a high degree of liaison and co-ordination between the Area local Councils and the Regional Council.

The boundaries of the suggested area municipalities are shown on the enclosed map. A table is provided to show the suggested make-up of the Regional Council (Ch. 4, P. 138).

| <u>Area Municipality</u> | <u>Population</u> | <u>Number of Representatives on Metro Council</u> | <u>Population Per Representative</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| City of Hamilton | 291,000 | 13 | 22,384 |
| City of Burlington | 76,000 | 4 | 19,000 |
| Borough of Dundas-Ancaster | 31,000 | 2 | 15,500 |
| Borough of Grimsby-Stoney Creek | 40,200 | 3 | 13,400 |
| Borough of South Wentworth | 19,000 | 1 | 19,000 |
| Borough of North Wentworth | 12,500 | 1 | 12,500 |
| Total | | <u>24</u> | |

Population figures estimate based on 1908 assessed population, Department of Municipal Affairs.

N.B. In addition, a Chairman of the Metropolitan Council would be elected by a two thirds majority of that council (Ch. 5, P. 141).

It has been recommended that there should be an Executive Committee of the Metropolitan Council composed of the chairman, two members elected by the Metropolitan Council from the Hamilton representatives, one elected from the Burlington representatives and one member from the representatives of the other four Boroughs. Major decisions of the Executive Committee should not be permitted to be changed without a two-thirds majority vote of council (Ch. 5, P. 141-2). The term of office of all councils should be three years (Ch. 4, P. 143).

Services

Provision of services is divided between the two levels of municipal government. A complete discussion of the level of local government to be responsible for the provision of each service will be found in the text of Chapter four, Pages 89-134. The substance of this is included here.

The Metropolitan Council would have exclusive jurisdiction for all municipal and education capital financing. This would provide co-ordinated financial planning and would gain the most favourable terms for the area, on the financial markets. The Metropolitan Council would allot to each area council or school board a share of the total debenture issue in a given year. Disagreement on this debenture allotment could be appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board (Ch. 4, P. 101-103).

The Commission recommends that a network of arterial roads be designated as metropolitan roads. The Metropolitan Council would then exercise control over these roads including their building, financing, street lighting and the traffic control devices which regulate the traffic flow on the metropolitan system (Ch. 4, P. 103-105). Each Area Council would retain jurisdiction over the remaining road system within their boundaries.

Borough municipalities should be supplied with clean water for local distribution by the Metropolitan Council. Water rates charged to the boroughs should be self-sustaining and based on equity (Ch. 4, P. 108-110). The same would apply in sewerage. The Area Council would be responsible for the local collector sewer mains while the Metropolitan Council would be responsible for the main trunk sewers and treatment of sewage (Ch. 4, P. 110-113). Storm sewers are handled in much the same way. Some large sewers would be classed as under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Council while others would be under the Area Council (Ch. 4, P. 113-114).

Policing in the urban areas would be done by the Metropolitan force while the Ontario Provincial Police would continue to service the rural boroughs (Ch. 4, P. 119-121). In addition urban renewal (P. 117) health and welfare service (P. 122) and libraries (P. 127) would all be metropolitan responsibilities.

The commissioners have recommended that electric power be supplied by four separate hydro commissions. The four hydro commissions would have the following jurisdictions:-

1. City of Hamilton,
2. City of Burlington,
3. combined Boroughs of Dundas-Ancaster with
North Wentworth
4. combined Boroughs of Grimsby-Stoney Creek with
South Wentworth (Ch. 4, P. 124-126).

A Metropolitan Hamilton Transit Commission would have jurisdiction for public transit within the region. Appointments to this Commission would be made by the Metropolitan Council (Ch. 4, P. 105-106). Recreation would be a local responsibility (Ch. 4, P. 116) while parks would be handled at two levels. Some of the larger parks could be the responsibility of the Metropolitan Council while neighbourhood parks would remain with the area municipality (Ch. 4, P. 114-116). The provision of fire protection services would be an area responsibility (Ch. 4, P. 121-122). Additionally, area municipalities would be responsible for tax billing and collection (Ch. 4, P. 130-131) and the issuance of building permits. On the other hand, the establishment of a uniform building code for the region would be a metropolitan responsibility (Ch. 4, P. 131). Licensing of businesses at a fixed location would become an area responsibility while licensing of mobile trades (e.g. contractors, taxis) would be a metropolitan

responsibility (Ch. 4, P. 131-133). All licensing, however, would be done by the council in each case, and not by either a licensing commission or the Police Commission.

Planning is the making of basic policy decisions determining development in an area. Therefore, the Commission feels that the responsibility for basic planning policy on land use and future development should belong to the metropolitan government and that the planning area should be co-terminous with the municipal boundary. The Metropolitan Council should adopt an Official Plan dealing with overall policy matters for the Metropolitan area. The area municipalities would then prepare detailed Official Plans within the framework of the Metropolitan Official Plan. Plans of subdivision would be approved by the Metropolitan Council and the Area Councils in concert. Zoning by-laws which are the implementation of an Official Plan would be the responsibility of the area council subject to Ontario Municipal Board approval. Committees of Adjustment would be appointed by the area municipality but their decisions would be reviewed by the Metropolitan Council and their planning staff rather than by The Department of Municipal Affairs (Ch. 4, P. 89-101).

The Commissioners have recommended the retention of a separate Board of Education (Ch. 5, P. 148). They have recommended that the following educational authorities, operate within the metropolitan region. The recommended jurisdictions are:-

- (a) the Board of Education for the City of Hamilton
- (b) the Board of Education for the City of Burlington
- (c) the Wentworth Board of Education (including Grimsby and North Grimsby Township).

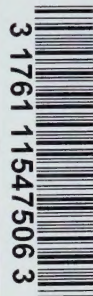
As well, the Separate School Board would be continued and enlarged to include the whole metropolitan area.

The Commissioners have stressed the need for increased co-ordination of expenditure between municipal officials and their educational counterparts since they are both levying taxes against the same property base. This co-ordination would be achieved by having all capital expenditures of the Boards of Education, that are to be paid for by the issue of debentures or otherwise financed in future years, subject to the approval of the Metropolitan Council. All debentures in the metropolitan area, whether for general or school purposes, should be issued by the Metropolitan Council (Ch. 6, P. 170-171).

The above material has been summarized in the following table:-

| <u>Metropolitan (Upper Tier)</u> | <u>Borough (Lower Tier)</u> |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Planning (as defined) | Local Planning (as defined) |
| Capital Financing | Fire Protection |
| Transportation (as defined) | Local Distribution of Water |
| Waterworks, supply and trunks (as defined) | Local Sewers |
| Sewage works and land drainage (as defined) | Local Roads |
| Garbage disposal sites | Garbage Collection |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Police (as defined) | Recreation |
| Metropolitan Parks (as defined) | Electrical energy |
| Health and Welfare | Building Permits |
| Libraries | Tax Billing and collecting |
| Licensing (as defined) | Traffic Control |
| Building Codes | Local Parks |
| Industrial Promotion (as defined) | Licensing (as defined) |
| Emergency Measures Organization | All other municipal responsibilities not specifically allocated |
| Urban Renewal | |



3 1761 11547506 3

QUO-TANG
50125
MADE IN U.S.A.